



A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESUME FUNDING OF THE MONTANA BIO-PRODUCT INNOVATION CENTERS.

WHEREAS, the Montana Agricultural Innovation Centers were created by the 2002 federal farm bill and were federally funded starting in September of 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Agricultural Innovation Centers provide valuable information and expertise to small agricultural businesses, farms, and cooperatives hoping to start up, grow, or evolve new product lines; and

WHEREAS, the original source of federal funding ran out on October 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Agricultural Innovation Centers were renamed Bio-Product Innovation Centers (BPICs) and added agricultural workforce training to their duties; and

WHEREAS, the WIRED (Workforce Innovations in Regional Economic Development) Program has funded the Bio-Product Innovation Centers for the last 2 years; and

WHEREAS, WIRED funding will cease on January 31, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the federal government be requested to resume funding the Montana Bio-Product Innovation Centers that it created, so as not to place an additional burden on Montana state government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the members of the Montana Congressional Delegation.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within joint resolution,  
SJ 0011, originated in the Senate.

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Secretary of the Senate

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11  
INTRODUCED BY J. BRUEGGEMAN  
BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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